

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action dated 11/2/2005, the above-identified application has been amended. Review and reconsideration are requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

The Examiner objected to the specification as being inconsistent with claim 1. In this regard, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as lacking antecedent basis in the specification for "means for maintaining" and stated this should be "means for adjusting".

Applicant has cancelled claim 1, but incorporated the language of claim 1 into claim 8 with the "means for adjusting" language. Further, the examiner indicated claims 8, 12, and 14-16 allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the intervening claims. Claims 2-6 and 9-10 and 17 are amended to depend from claim 8 and claim 12 has been written in independent form with claims 11, 13-16 depending therefrom and thus are believed in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Brown in view of Hedges. It is asserted by the examiner Brown teaches the invention save for the claimed hook which is taught by Hedges.

Applicant amended claim 7 to further characterize the hook to extend upward from the storage member for retaining a conventional roller paint tray atop of the storage member in a manner to permit use thereof. This is not taught, disclosed or suggested anywhere in the references. Accordingly, claims 7, and 18-21 are respectfully submitted to be patentably distinct over the art.

Claims 2-21 are submitted to be in condition for allowance and the same is requested at as early a date as possible. This is intended to be complete response to the Official Action dated 11/2/2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date. February 2, 2006

R. William Graham